

## The Key issues/Challenges for competition reforms in The Gambia

Issue/Challenge	Priority(P) or Non Priority	Strategies
<b>TOP PRIORITIES</b>		
A general lack of awareness of existence of competition laws among respondents from the business sector in The Gambia. The existence of regulatory authorities is however generally known.	(P1) 1	
Absence of consumer awareness of competition issues and consumer protection groups to complement the process	(P1) 2	
General perception that competition issues are not understood in the economy by National Assembly Members and Civil Society Organizations, including farmers and the media	(P1) 3	
Despite the adoption of the competition law, its implementation is taking long due to human, financial and technical constraints.	(P4) 4	
Insufficient funding for regulatory authorities and agencies	(P5) 5	
A framework of cooperation between the Competition Commission and the Sector Regulators on how to jointly exercise their mandate of ensuring fair competition in the regulated sectors is missing.	(P6) 6	
<b>PRIORITIES</b>		
GSM operators in the country obliged to use only the GAMTEL International Gateway for both voice and data		
<b>NON PRIORITIES</b>		
Vertical agreements between importers and distributors have been observed. The consumer goods market for rice, cooking oil and sugar gives clear example of this kind of practice.		
Tied-selling is common; e.g. a wholesaler interested in sugar has to buy rice on credit from the importers. That would also be the condition for accessing certain goods on credit basis whilst paying for others upfront.		
Ferry Services is not open to competition.		
In the commodity sectors of rice, onion, Irish potatoes and flour, there exists a series of collusive agreement in the selling price. The main importers concur to fix prices, thus leading to the hike in retail price in the shops.		
Monopolisation of the groundnut processing facilities and exportation giving rise to anticompetitive practices in the groundnut sector.		